



Webster Township Farmland & Open Space Preservation Board

Regular Meeting: Monday June 8, 2020

The regular meeting of the Webster Township Farmland & Open Space Preservation Board was called to order by Chair John Westman at 6:37 p.m. on Monday June 8, 2020 at the Webster Township Hall, 5665 Webster Church Road, Dexter, MI 48130. Masks were required and appropriate social distancing was observed.

Members present: Chair John Westman, members Tom Bloomer, Jerry Nordblom, Julie Frost, Linda Hosford and consultant Barry Lonik. Also present, Charles Estleman.

Members absent: None

Approve Minutes:

Motion Frost, second Hosford to approve the open and closed session minutes of the WTFOSPB meeting held on March 9, 2020 as presented. All ayes, motion carried. There were no meetings held in April or May.

Chairman's Remarks:

Chair Westman thanked everyone for attending.

Approve Agenda:

Motion Bloomer, second Hosford to approve the June 8, 2020 agenda as presented. All ayes, motion carried.

Call to Public:

No comments

Review Bills:

Following discussion, motion Frost , second Bloomer to recommend that the Township Board of Trustees approve and pay the March invoice from Treemore Ecology and Land Services, Inc. as presented. Roll call, all ayes, motion carried. Motion Bloomer, second Frost to recommend that the Township Board of Trustees approve and pay the April invoices from Treemore Ecology and Land Services, Inc. as presented. Roll call, all ayes, motion carried. Motion Frost, second Hosford to recommend that the Township Board of Trustees approve and pay the May invoices from Treemore Ecology and Land Services, Inc. as presented. Roll call, all ayes, motion carried.

Reports

Township Board

Westman reviewed and answered questions regarding the BOT meetings held on March 17th and April 21st. There was no BOT meeting in May.

Consultant:

Lonik reported that the USDA has yet to provide a letter approving our partnership with the Legacy Land Conservancy in the Huron River RCPP. Remy Long is pursuing 10 million dollars in RCPP funding with the goal of improving the water quality of Lake Erie. The County BOC has approved placing a renewal of the land preservation millage on the November ballot. Lonik reviewed the results of his spring property monitoring visits. There were a couple of minor issues that are being resolved with the respective property owners.

Greenbelt:

Bloomer reported that the Greenbelt Commission has recently closed on seven parcels totaling 432 acres. Four additional properties are being pursued: two in Superior Twp., one in Salem Twp. and one in Ann Arbor Twp.

Old Business

A. PDR Newsletter: After final review; motion Bloomer, second Hosford to forward the proposed newsletter to the Twp. BOT for final approval and inclusion in the July tax statements. All ayes, motion carried. Thanks to Julie Frost for all her hard work on this.

Closed session

Motion Hosford, second Frost to close the open session at 8:17 pm and go into closed session in order to discuss confidential applications to the PDR program. Roll call, all ayes, motion carried. Charles Estleman did not participate in the closed session. The WTFOSPB returned to open session and was called to order by Chair Westman at 8:44 pm.

New Business:

A. Motion: Following discussion: Motion Bloomer, second Frost to recommend that the Township Board of Trustees approve the expenditure of PDR funds, not to exceed \$2,300, for an environmental site assessment on property described in application 2015-2. Roll call, all ayes, motion carried.

B. Open Meeting requirements: The requirements for holding open public meetings were reviewed and discussed.

C. Easement violation: A potential easement violation was discussed. Lonik will address the situation in his monitoring report to the property owner. The problem is not likely to recur.

D. Annual Report: Lonik presented the Annual Report. Unfortunately Westman did not print the entire report for the board to review. Motion Westman, second Frost to postpone consideration of the Annual Report until the July meeting. All ayes, motion carried.

Correspondence:

None

Call to Public:

None present.

Adjournment:

Motion Bloomer, second Hosford to adjourn the meeting. All ayes, motion carried. The meeting was declared adjourned by Chair Westman at 9:30 p.m. Next scheduled meeting: July 13, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

John Westman

Chair, WTFOSPB

